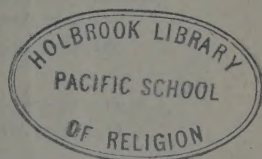


FEDERAL COUNCIL

Bulletin

VOL. XXVII, No. 6

JUNE, 1944



Leaders at Conference on Returning Service Men and Women

Left to right—Dr. William B. Pugh, Brigadier General Frank T. Hines, Congressman Jerry Voorhis and Dr. John H. Gardner, Jr. See page 6.

• A JOURNAL OF INTERCHURCH COÖPERATION •

Coming Events

A calendar of the more important national meetings of church organizations, so far as known to the BULLETIN, is published monthly in this column.

GENERAL SYNOD, REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA Buck Hill Falls, Pa.....	June 1, 1944
SERVICE MEN'S CHRISTIAN LEAGUE Philadelphia, Pa.....	June 6, 1944
GENERAL COMMISSION ON ARMY AND NAVY CHAPLAINS Washington, D. C.....	June 7, 1944
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN, ANNUAL CONFERENCE Huntingdon, Pa.....	June 7-11, 1944
JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF FAITH AND ORDER AND LIFE AND WORK New York, N. Y.....	June 13, 1944
CONFERENCE OF COMMITTEE ON FRIENDLY RELATIONS AMONG FOREIGN STUDENTS Bronxville, N. Y.....	June 14, 15, 1944
CHURCH COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION New York, N. Y.....	June 16, 1944
NATIONAL BAPTIST TRAINING UNION & CONGRESS Birmingham, Ala.....	June 21-26, 1944
GENERAL SYNOD, EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH York, Pa.....	June 21-28, 1944
GENERAL COUNCIL, CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES Grand Rapids, Mich.....	June 21-28, 1944
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF MISSOURI, OHIO, AND OTHER STATES Saginaw, Mich.	June 21-30, 1944
SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE Alfred, N. Y.....	August 22-27, 1944
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, U.S.A., INC. Dallas, Texas.....	September 6-10, 1944
UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST, BOARD OF MANAGERS, WOMEN'S MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION Dayton, Ohio.....	October 12-16, 1944
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Columbus, Ohio.....	October 17-22, 1944

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FEDERAL COUNCIL BULLETIN

A Journal of Interchurch Coöperation

Issued by

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

CONSTITUTED BY TWENTY-FIVE NATIONAL COMMUNIONS

National Baptist Convention
Northern Baptist Convention
Church of the Brethren
Congregational Christian Churches
Disciples of Christ
Evangelical Church
Evangelical and Reformed Church
Friends
The Methodist Church

African M. E. Church
African M. E. Zion Church
Colored M. E. Church in America
Moravian Church
Presbyterian Church in U. S. A.
Presbyterian Church in U. S.
Protestant Episcopal Church
Reformed Church in America
Reformed Episcopal Church

Seventh Day Baptist Churches
Syrian Antiochian Orthodox Church of
North America
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America
United Brethren Church
United Church of Canada
United Lutheran Church
(Consultative Body)
United Presbyterian Church

VOL. XXVII, No. 6

JUNE, 1944

THE EDITORIAL OUTLOOK

Prayers Used in England

The following prayers were suggested by the Archbishop of Canterbury for use on Invasion Day:

"Heavenly Father, God both of righteousness and peace, have mercy upon the nations now engaged in bitter war. Cleanse both us and our enemies of hatred and covetousness. Make us so worthy of our cause, so steadfast in Thy strength, that no weakness may delay the victory of our arms, and no selfishness mar the righteousness of our peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord."

"O Lord God, we humbly dedicate to Thee ourselves, our nation, and our cause, place in Thy hands all we have and all we are and all we desire, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord."

Christian Upheaval in Europe

Reports continue to pour in from the Office of War Information and from correspondents abroad indicating that heroic resistance to totalitarianism persists and even increases in many parts of Europe. A sobering and inspiring record of martyrdom is amplified every day.

One of the more recent inspiring documents comes from the students of the Waldensian College at Torre Pellice in Piedmont, Italy, issued on February 17th, which was the anniversary of

Waldensian Emancipation Day. "Today the die is cast," said the students. "We will continue like our fathers to obey God rather than man. We have made our choice. We will never be slaves. February 17th is a pious date no dictatorship can revoke." It is no wonder that reprisals resulted, hostages were taken and tortured and seventy buildings were destroyed.

From Germany and all occupied territories come similar reports which indicate that the spiritual dynamism and courage of Christian leaders transcend all the efforts of the oppressor to subdue them.

Just what the consequences of these years will be in the life of the churches of the Continent we cannot yet foresee; but we know that changes of tremendous significance have been taking place. It behooves us to use our best judgment and spiritual imagination to try to understand something of what is happening. We should constantly remind ourselves that we shall have much to learn before we can enter with adequate understanding into conferences with our continental brothers when the war is over and before we shall be prepared to understand the nature of their needs for relief and rehabilitation.

We gain some insight from occasional letters from Switzerland. The Editor would like to share with BULLETIN readers portions of two personal letters received from a respected church leader who is well-known both in Europe and America:

"Although an ocean of silence lies between us, my thoughts are often wandering toward you and often do I wish I could sit down in your office and talk over with you not only the facts lying on the surface of life and politics, but their hidden aspects, hidden spiritual sources and consequences. What is happening today in the world, especially on the Continent, is all so deep-reaching in its spiritual meaning that we have to speak of Heaven and Hell in order to find adequate terms of interpretation. All other questions concerning the problems, organization and committees do not matter so much from this point of view, although they may be necessary. Do we really understand the God who is today acting in storm, fire, and earthquake? Is His judgment upon us? If so, it is also His mercy and grace. The idea of judgment has come terribly near to certain minds, not only in the Confessional Church, who confess it sometimes, but also to the followers of Christ who think history in terms of judgment and redemption. We in our country are lookers-on, so to speak, at the destruction of Europe. What we hear from neighboring countries is appalling. I cannot speak of it, but I have letters from friends which show that, if 'liberation' means total destruction, the ecumenical movement will find it difficult to discover the resonance for its purposes which would be necessary for effective work. I speak from experience."

"I wonder what you hear from Europe and its churches. European opinion is divided. Sometimes I have to reject a too optimistic hope that American churches are more or less the saviour of the world, and sometimes I have to reject a certain mistrust that the churches are again too much identified with the spirit of the world and this warfare. Others like ——— condemn the churches and theology. But our people consider him as an anarchist who hopes that this war will break down the churches and make room for the Kingdom of God."

The last war involved no spiritual upheaval comparable to what is taking place now. The problems of reconciliation and readjustment which confronted the churches in the period following that war were simple in comparison with

those we shall face this time. We would be almost overwhelmed as we contemplate the difficulties in prospect if it were not for the new resources with which we go into the years ahead. The ecumenical movement has helped, even through these war years, to bind Christians together in a deeper fellowship, and the World Council of Churches will facilitate mutual exchange of insight, aid and inspiration. God seems to have given us these new resources to enable us to meet more effectively the challenge of the present crisis. In His power we can face the future with confidence.

What's Right with the Churches?

Self-criticism is the balance-wheel of democratic institutions, including Protestant churches. It gives rise to new dynamic movements and helps to check abuses. Though always annoying to the stand-patters, it is generally defended as one of the valued features of our tradition.

But this virtue becomes a vice when it becomes a matter of careless habit. Self-criticism may become so common as to give others the impression that we have lost confidence in the Protestant churches. It may even be carried to the point where it undermines our own morale.

The press helps to exaggerate any criticism. An incidental reference in a sermon may become its main feature as reported in Monday's papers or in the journals of another faith. Controversy, or the expression of a dissident opinion from within a group, is usually regarded as news. And what may be intended only as a wholesome corrective of complacency among ourselves is often picked up by others to condemn us out of our own mouths and prove our weakness. Then we find ourselves in a defensive position which is of our own making.

In order that we ourselves may have a correct estimate of the churches and that the general public may have a fair judgment, the habitual self-critics might consider giving more attention to the aspects of the life and work of the churches about which they can sincerely be

enthusiastic and then talk about them at least part of the time. In the interest of accuracy and truth it is as important to point out what is right with the churches as what is wrong with them. Judiciously balanced judgment in self-evaluation is needed rather than blindness either to failures or achievements.

The Income Tax and the Contributor

The protests of the churches and a few social welfare and educational groups against the Income Tax Bill have not prevailed with Congress. The popular reaction against the 1943 income tax return form appears to have been politically effective in an election year. The new bill, which will determine the procedure for payment and computation beginning January 1, 1945, is an ultra-simplification which involves drastic changes which may seriously impair some of our basic American traditions.

The Federal Council took the initiative, supported by some other national agencies, in insisting that deductions allowed for contributions should be earned. It objected to the presumptive average deduction which is allowed regardless of whether the taxpayer has actually paid much or nothing in contributions. It made its argument to the tax legislation staff experts, then to the House Ways and Means Committee and finally to the Senate Finance Committee in very positive language. It requested hearings before both the House and Senate committees, but neither held hearings.

We are therefore faced with a situation which imposes upon every minister and finance committee or stewardship committee the responsibility to explain to the contributors the implications of the new procedure. If this task is done adequately the churches need not suffer financially, despite the bad principle of the bill.

It should be clearly pointed out that the taxpayer may still deduct up to 15 per cent for contributions to religious, educational, and charitable organizations. This is to be done in the final return and computation for the year and will require certain decisions at the beginning of

the year. These will be explained when the new forms become available.

The important fact to establish now is that the conscientious and generous contributor is to be put to an inconvenience in order to obtain his deduction. His loyalty to his church must be sufficient to prompt him to accept the inconvenience. This is what must be impressed upon him. The man who contributes nothing or a negligible percentage of his income will be allowed an unearned deduction and will obtain it without inconvenience.

The new procedures will probably be very popular in contrast to the return for 1943. But sufficient relief might have been found in a simplified form and computation. It was not necessary to eliminate the computation altogether for a large majority of taxpayers. Now many people are likely to see only two alternatives—the complicated computation of 1943 on the one hand and no computation on the other. Having once been relieved of the computation, they will be reluctant to return to even a simplified computation.

A new task is cut out for us for the coming months. Guidance will be provided to the churches when the final details are available.

The Church and the Y.M.C.A.

During this month when in many communities the churches will be helping the Y.M.C.A. to celebrate its centennial anniversary, this movement of Christian laymen and the churches will continue to grow closer together.

As we have observed before in these columns, understanding and mutual helpfulness have been increasing during the last couple of years and we believe that as the Y.M.C.A. enters upon its second century it has the appreciation and confidence of the churches generally. We are grateful for its witness to Christ throughout the world and for the quality and extent of its service to young men under all circumstances through war and peace. May it continue to work so closely in fellowship with the Master whose name it bears that it may have the light and power of His Spirit in the years ahead.

Returning Service Men and Women

THE help of the churches is greatly needed, both for returning service men and women and for their families," said Brigadier General Frank T. Hines, Director of the Veterans' Administration and federal Director of Retraining and Re-employment of Veterans, at the National Conference on the Ministry of the Church to Returning Service Men and Women, held in Baltimore on May 17 and 18.

The conference was jointly sponsored by the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains, the Service Men's Christian League, the Federal Council's Commission on Religion and Health, and the Christian Commission for Camp and Defense Communities. The sponsoring agencies represented the interests of the Federal Council, the International Council of Religious Education, the Home Missions Council, and the United Council of Church Women.

More than two hundred church executives and other leaders participated in the sessions. Designed to arouse the interest of the churches in a large area where the need is becoming great, the conference was opened with a statement of the essential problem and analysis of the attitudes and needs of the men and women as a whole. Special attention was then given to needs in particular areas: religion and the church, social and recreational life, and employment and education.

What the government is now prepared to do and is planning to do further came next, with suggestions on the kind of supplementation most needed on the part of the Church. The sessions of the second day were devoted entirely to a consideration of program planning on the part of the Church. This discussion included reference both to the place of the Church in the over-all community program, and the special and distinctive functions of the local church.

The conference chairman was Dr. William B. Pugh, Chairman of the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains. Chairman of the Conference Steering Committee was Rev. Marion J. Creeger, Executive Secretary of the Christian Commission for Camp and Defense Communities.

The conference presented a wealth of leadership and content which cannot easily be summarized. Some of the main points emphasized by a few of the outstanding speakers and discussants may be suggested:

William B. Pugh, Chairman, General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains. The Church must be realistic in facing these problems. Let us remember the men who have been on lonely outposts as well as those returning from combat.

John A. P. Millett, Chairman, Emergency Committee of Neuro-Psychiatric Societies of New York. We shall need to be specific in our assessment of the needs. Some will have constructive attitudes, others destructive attitudes, and still others will be confused and therefore subject to being led in a forward or backward direction. The Church has an immense responsibility.

Jerry Voorhis, Congressman from California. The nation can provide full employment for veterans only if it is determined to provide full employment for everyone. The Church has an important stake in the entire problem, but its principal service is its own distinctive ministry of religion.

John Sutherland Bonnell, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City. Of cardinal importance to the Church is the need to prepare now for counseling with individual men on their problems. Those men who return with attitudes of irritability, bitterness, or a sense of guilt will require personal and spiritual counsel of a high order; and training for this should begin now.

Edgar H. S. Chandler, Chaplain, U. S. N. R. In order to meet the needs of returning men and women, the Church will do well to re-examine itself to see if it offers what is specifically needed. Vitality and simplicity are the characteristics which will most attract returning men to the Church.

Luther B. Woodward, Rehabilitation Division, National Committee for Mental Hygiene. Three-fourths of the military discharges for emotional and psychiatric reasons are as well able to carry on in civilian pursuits as anyone else. We must take care to recognize that such discharges do not imply mental disorder in the usual sense.

Lt. Col. Colgate Hoyt, Veterans Personnel Division, Selective Service System. The Selective Service System is expanding its employment work, which is mainly directed at getting back for men who wish them the positions which they previously held. So far, only 25 per cent of the men leaving the services have returned to their former positions.

Francis J. Brown, Consultant, American Council on Education. We do well to realize the immense size of the educational enterprise which the military organizations are sponsoring, both training and off-duty education. Plans for post-war education of soldiers and sailors still in foreign lands are far advanced. Post-war education at home must provide for a high degree of individualization, and abstract studies must be vitalized.

Harry D. Edgren, U.S.O. We have learned much from the wartime experience about recreational needs. We know now that creative leadership is more important than luxurious equipment.

John W. Harms, Executive Secretary, Church Federation of Greater Chicago. On many aspects of program the Church has a distinctive function and will take the lead. But it should take care to be represented in all community planning, and to coordinate its own planning with that of the community.

J. E. Sproul, National Council of the Y.M.C.A.'s. Although there is a good deal of activity in many local communities, planning for returning service men across the nation as a whole so far is spotty and uneven. Most important now is that the churches and such agencies as the Y.M.C.A. discover the distinctive needs they should meet, and work coöperatively and together in meeting them.

John H. Gardner, Jr., First Presbyterian Church, Baltimore. All our church people should know how to greet returning men. Special attention to our attitudes toward injured and emotionally troubled men is necessary, with particular reference to helping their families. We must help families to understand the need for extended hospitalization, for example, on the part of men with tuberculosis. The job of the local church is a religious one, but it involves being aware of every area of need and seeing that none is neglected.

Hampton Adams, Union Avenue Christian Church, St. Louis. Our first task in the local church is to maintain fellowship with

men and women now. We do well to have a committee in our church which is itself prepared to help them as they return. Planning for our adult religious education program is also important. Always we should impress on them and ourselves the Church's faith in its own mission.

Ensign Esther O. Johnson, Special Services, U. S. N. R. The women in our armed forces are not going to be basically changed from what they were when they entered the new life of military or naval service. They will be more against blundering, hypocrisy, and bigotry of any kind than ever before. They will insist that

it shall not happen again. Most of them, if they return to jobs, will be more efficient; if they go to marriage, better partners.

The Maryland-Delaware Council of Churches was host to the conference. A summarized report is being made available, for which advance orders may be sent to any of the sponsoring groups or to the Literature Department, Federal Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y.

National Study Conferences Planned

A SECOND national study conference such as convened two years ago at Delaware, Ohio, will be held next January to help clarify the mind of the Protestant churches in the United States regarding the moral, political, and economic foundations of an enduring peace.

The decision to hold the conference was made by the Commission on a Just and Durable Peace, which will name a committee to arrange a three-day conference. It probably will be held January 16-19, 1945, at a place yet to be selected. Following the pattern of the Delaware conference, it is planned to seek appointment of delegates by responsible denominational bodies and allied religious organizations, including state and city councils of churches. The Delaware conference was attended by 377 delegates.

It is expected that the study conference will review the developments in the international situation with a view to recommending the future course of the church forces in bringing the maximum influence to bear for a just and durable peace based on spiritual principles. In this effort it will examine the Commission's proposals of concrete actions to assure a course in accord with the thought of a widely representative group of Protestant leaders.

The Delaware conference, which approved Guiding Christian Principles as its concept of the moral law for a just and durable peace, was held in March, 1942, only a few months after the United States entered the world war. Since that time the world situation has changed radically.

A National Study Conference on the Church and Minority Peoples, to be convened in the spring or early summer of 1945, will bring together appointed representatives of the various denominations to consider steps which the churches should now take to meet the problems posed by America's racial and cultural minorities. Authorization for the Conference, which will be called by the Commission on the Church and Minority Peoples, was given by the Federal Council's Executive Committee at its May meeting.

In preparation for the Conference, papers are being written on the ten subjects which, in the judgment of the Commission, are of major importance for the consideration of the churches. The topics, as tentatively worded,

are: The Christian Teaching on Race; The Church and Current Minority Tensions; The Teachings of Modern Science on Race; The Church and Segregation; The Church and the Question of "Social Equality"; The Local Church and Racial Issues; The Church and Constitutional and Civic Rights; Racism and the World Outreach of the Church and the Nation; Racial Attitudes in Children; Christian Youth and the Race Question.

Relocating Japanese Americans

The following statement was adopted by the Executive Committee of the Federal Council on May 16, 1944.

We have noted with deep concern the expressed attitudes of certain public officials against the resettlement of people of Japanese ancestry in communities in the Middle West and the East. We call attention to the fact that these are law-abiding people whose character and conduct have been exemplary under trying ordeals such as few of us have had to face. They have been thoroughly investigated by Governmental agencies before being released from relocation centers for resettlement. There has not been a single person of Japanese ancestry brought to trial in any U. S. court on charges of sabotage. American soldiers of Japanese descent have served this country with courage and distinction in Europe, Africa, and the Southwest Pacific.

These people are under the necessity of seeking new homes in new communities through no fault of their own. Law-abiding American citizens are inviting them into their communities, providing suitable accommodation for residence and assuring them of employment by which they may earn their support.

These facts make clear that the persons concerned have every right and reason to expect just and fair treatment by public officials and suitable protection by the police authority.

The Executive Committee of the Federal Council of Churches, therefore, approves the action of church leaders and other citizens who support the resettlement program of the Government, and expresses the hope that our public officials will protect all loyal citizens, preserve democratic procedures and cooperate with the Federal Government in carrying out its program for relocation of Americans of Japanese descent.

Enlarging Ministry to Wartime Communities

IT is the season of annual reports with the Christian Commission for Camp and Defense Communities. From widely separated communities come many accounts of increasingly effective and varied united ministry of churches to the millions of Americans on the move. From the great defense industrial areas with their vast numbers of in-migrant war workers come reports that indicate also a growing response to the efforts of coöperating Protestantism to serve the religious needs of these people.

ON THE WEST COAST

In the Vallejo (Cal.) defense area, Chabot Terrace is a community of 3,000 homes. In spite of the fact that as yet no community buildings are available and that homes and the project maintenance shop must be used for Sunday school and worship, 150 people came out for worship on Easter Sunday and 319 were present at the school. The average attendance at the school is 243. In this same parish is located Hillside Dormitories, for men, with 3,500 beds. Since it was opened two and a half years ago more than 45,000 men have used its facilities. Here also is North Side Dormitories for women with a capacity of 400 beds.

In addition to the wartime ministry to the large defense area population, the pastor, Rev. Bernard S. Davis, and his assistant have prepared and circulated among their people a corrected church directory, promoted a Human Relations Emphasis Week, and begun three weekday schools of religion, under California's new released time law, with an enrollment of 415 children.

In the Richmond (Cal.) defense area, the United Church Ministry is serving in ten defense housing projects. From all over the United States more than 100,000 new residents have poured into this new area. Responding to their sense of responsibility for the spiritual guidance and comfort of this vast number of newcomers, the Protestant churches of the Richmond area organized themselves into a Church Defense Council. Through this Council the national and local forces of Protestantism make a coöperative and united approach to the community. The program is carried on under the leadership of a full-time director, Rev. Harold H. Henderson, with the help of a full-time paid staff of thirteen and a volunteer staff of 85. The average attendance in the Sunday schools in this parish is a little over 1,200 per Sunday.

In Portland, Oregon, the United Church Ministry to Defense Communities is directed by an administrative committee of 37 members and a full-time director, Rev. Frank A. Shults.

This United Church Ministry represents the coöperative interest of the Protestant churches, the Y.M.C.A., and the Y.W.C.A. in providing organized church and

Sunday school activities in 18 centers of the Portland area. An employed staff of 28 trained religious workers directs the efforts of some 430 volunteer workers in regular activities and 720 more in occasional service. All except seven of the trained workers are provided by the respective denominations and assigned to the United Church Ministry.

OGDEN, UTAH

In Ogden, Utah, the story is much the same. In the vicinity of a city of 43,000 in pre-Pearl Harbor days, have come some 60,000 new residents, fifty per cent of whom are Protestant. The rest are predominantly Mormons, with a small percentage of Catholics.

Here the wartime Director, Rev. Rollo C. Speer, and a paid staff of ten carry on a United Church Ministry in 13 centers. One of the special features of this ministry is the organized youth work, under the name "The United Christian Youth Fellowship." The stated purpose of the organization is to strengthen in the youth of these centers a sense of fellowship among themselves and with the other groups of their respective churches so that they may more readily find their places when once again they return to normal church life in a settled community. Already the youth groups of the various centers have begun to feel their common bonds of unity and are making plans for a summer assembly.

INTER-CHURCH CENTERS FOR THE ARMED FORCES

Three new service centers for members of the armed forces have recently been opened under interdenominational auspices in Spokane, Washington; in Seattle, Washington; and in San Bernardino, California. The first center is operated under the general supervision of the Spokane Council of Churches and Christian Education and the Director is Rev. Tracy W. Manley. For the month of March a total attendance at this center of 4,725 was reported. The center in Seattle is under the general supervision of the Seattle Council of Churches. The Director of this center is Rev. Chester S. Ramsey. In San Bernardino the project is under the sponsorship of the churches of the city and is carried on with the full approval and coöperation of the U.S.O., the City Council, and the Mayor. The Director of the center is Rev. R. M. Rushton.

CLERICAL WORKERS AIDED BY WASHINGTON CHURCHES

Among the many thousands of new residents in the nation's capital are young women engaged in clerical work in government offices. They are recruited from all parts of the country. Some of the employing agencies take pride in giving special attention to their needs. For example, women coming for civilian employment in the

Navy Department are guaranteed housing accommodations. But much remains to be done by the community.

A Navy Civilian Recruitment Representative has written us concerning "the wonderful work that is being done by the churches of Washington for the workers" and enclosing the following letter from Donald F. Bautz, Director of the Defense Commission of the Federation of Churches, addressed to the Departmental Recruitment Office:

"When your new Navy civilian worker arrives in Washington, we wish her to know that over 200 churches are united in a wartime service to fulfill her religious needs while in the Nation's Capital.

"As a part of the Defense Commission of the Wash-

ington Federation of Churches, there is a Workers' Committee composed of all full-time denominational counselors who have been assigned to Washington to work with government employees and service personnel, whose main duty is to help the newcomer find her place in the church of her choice.

"Spiritual, social, and cultural opportunities are available in the program of the churches and I am sure that your new recruit will be able to find activities and friends like those in her own home church.

"For further information she may call our office at Decatur 3132 and we will do everything we can to make her feel at home while she is making her vital contribution to the war effort."

Change in Leadership of Chaplains' Commission

BISHOP Edwin F. Lee of the Methodist Church, who until the evacuation of Singapore was the Bishop in charge of the Area of Southeastern Asia, has been elected Director of the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains to succeed Dr. S. Arthur Devan, who resigned his post on April first.

Released by the Methodist Council of Bishops until the Orient is open for the resumption of mission work, Bishop Lee will begin his new work on June first. His headquarters will be in the Woodward Building, Washington, D. C.

According to Dr. William Barrow Pugh, Chairman of the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains, Bishop Lee's work will include (1) securing additional ministers for the chaplaincy; (2) representing the interests of the chaplains in the government, particularly the War Department and the Navy Department; (3) maintaining constant contacts with the chaplains through correspondence and through organizing systematic visitations of all the chaplains by outstanding representatives of the churches; (4) helping the churches to deal with the problems of returning soldiers and sailors.

A veteran of 22 years' service in the Far East, Bishop Lee was forced to leave Singapore at the end of January, 1942, when the Japanese army was only 17 miles distant. During the preceding seven and a half weeks, while the city was under constant bombardment, he went through 100 air raids.

Evacuated at the urgent advice of the United States Consul General, Bishop Lee, with his wife and 74 other Americans, escaped on a small American freighter. After 66 days of travel via Java and Australia, 46 of them on three different ships, the Lees landed in San Francisco on April 6, 1942.

One of the first chaplains appointed out of civilian life in the last war, Bishop Lee served for a year and a half with the American Expeditionary Force in France as senior chaplain of Base Section No. 7.

He was elected a Missionary Bishop of the Methodist Church in 1928, and has been in charge of mission work in Malaysia, the Philippine Islands, Sarawak, and Sumatra since that time, with headquarters in Manila and Singapore.

As an expression of appreciation for Dr. Devan's services, the Executive Committee of the Federal Council adopted the following resolution:

"The Executive Committee of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America records its appreciation of the service rendered to the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains by Rev. S. Arthur Devan as the Director of its work during the past three years. Dr. Devan assumed this office at a time when the recruiting of chaplains for the Army and Navy was an outstanding responsibility of the churches. He has served the Commission faithfully in connection with its program of coordinating the efforts of the Protestant denominations in behalf of the chaplains and the Federal Council's Executive Committee desires to join with the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains in expressing its gratitude for the invaluable service which Dr. Devan has rendered."

United Church Canvass Dates Set

The Planning Committee of the United Church Canvass, representing the promotion departments of the cooperating national church bodies, has designated November 12 to December 3 inclusive, 1944, and February 18 to March 11 inclusive, 1945, as the campaign periods for the next season. The Committee reports a significant increase in the number of communities, especially larger cities, which are organizing already for united campaigns next year. The results of canvasses during the past year have stimulated similar activity in these additional communities.

Convocation on the Church in Town and Country

The annual National Convocation on the Church in Town and Country will be held at Elgin, Ill., November 14-16, 1944, under the auspices of the Committee on Town and Country of the Home Missions Council and the Federal Council of Churches. Headquarters will be in the First Methodist Church.

Rural ministers and lay leaders from twenty-five denominations and all regions of the country will participate in sixteen commissions which will consider most aspects of the current tasks of the rural church.

The opening address of the Convocation will be delivered by Dr. Henry S. Randolph, of the Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., on "The Church and Rural Life Movement."

Plans for the program of general sessions include a discussion of the question "How can the local church assist young people to become farm owners?" Also scheduled is an address by Dr. H. H. Bennett, Director of the Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, on "The Mission of Soil Conservation."

Consideration will be given to the relation of the city church to the country church. There will be a symposium to which ministers' wives and adult lay leaders and young people will contribute. Representatives of all the

national farm organizations and of federal and state government agencies have been invited to participate.

Anyone interested in the church in town and country may attend the Convocation. Because of war-time travel and housing conditions, it will be necessary for all persons who plan to attend to write in advance of November 1, 1944, to Benson Y. Landis, Secretary of the Committee on Town and Country Church, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N.Y., giving denominational connection and the probable time of arrival. A printed program may also be had without charge on application to the Committee.

1946 Census of Religious Bodies Requested

The Executive Committee of the Federal Council has requested the Federal Bureau of the Census to take a census of religious bodies in 1946, in order to continue the practice of a decennial census. Churches are urged to give the fullest possible measure of coöperation to the Government in the conduct of such a census.

Dates Set for Biennial Meeting

The 1944 Biennial Meeting of the Federal Council will be held November 28-30 inclusive. The place of meeting has not yet been announced.

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Its comprehensive analysis of *all* the problems involved in the coming peace make it the number one book for every Christian leader. An important book today; an *essential* one tomorrow. *Have you read it?*

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Out of the author's rich and varied experience in the Christian ministry comes this volume of fifteen sermons. Their messages get right down into life today where people find themselves amid overwhelming conditions. These sermons are vital and practical lessons in applied Christianity. Dr. Elliott's devotional treatment, his common-sense analysis of human needs, his suggestions for the application of Divine help to those needs, and his own vibrant, consecrated personality combine to make this volume one of winsome appeal and unusual helpfulness. There are moments of true worship and many moments of serious heart-searching as one reads this author's suggestions for coming to terms with life. Some of the provocative chapter titles are as follows: The Uses of Adversity, Wherein Are We Different?, Give Yourself a Chance, Silent Harps, God's Engraved Hands, A Plea for Independence, The Grace of Appreciation, The Shining Present, and Are You Disappointed?

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1944 Labor Sunday Message Ready

The 1944 Labor Sunday Message deals with the necessity of subordinating all group interests to the general interest of the community. Both capital and labor must serve the common welfare as represented in the needs of the consumer. Adequate purchasing power in the hands of the consumer is necessary for full production and employment.

American industry is challenged to look beyond immediate national interest to the vast needs of the world and to adapt its program to the demands of a world economy.

The prices for the Message are: 5 cents for a single copy; \$1.50 for 100 copies; \$5.00 for 500 copies; \$7.00 for 1,000 copies.

As in past years, quantity orders of the Message are available with the first cover-page left blank so that a church may print thereon its own order of service and announcements and distribute a copy to each member of the congregation. Prices of these blank cover-page copies are as follows: \$1.00 for 100 copies; \$4.00 for 500 copies, \$5.50 for 1,000 copies.

The Message and supplementary material may be obtained from the Department of the Church and Social Service, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Call to Prayer for the Children of the World

Adopted by the Executive Committee of the Federal Council, May 16, 1944.

While the thought and effort of our people are concentrated on the progress of the war itself, we should not become so preoccupied with it as to forget the tragic plight of the children of the world. Though innocent of responsibility for the present conflict, they suffer its consequences most tragically. They are caught not only in its devastation and starvation but also in the disease and stunted growth resulting from malnutrition. In addition to those who have died, millions have already been irreparably impaired in body and mind.

We therefore urge the churches to give special thought and prayer to the children of the world. Children's Day would be an especially appropriate occasion. The con-

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Send us three books, either Sermons, Essays, Children Stories, etc., with one dollar and receive three similar books. We carry the latest and the old standbys. Send good books and you will receive good books. Mail by book rates, three cents per pound. We cannot return your books but will refund money if not satisfied.

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Recent Macmillan Publications

The Church and the War

By Karl Barth

Translated by Antonia H. Froendt

An outstanding defender of Protestantism in Europe here answers without equivocation questions which Americans have been asking about the true function of the church in the present war. **\$1.00**

People, Church and State in Modern Russia

By Paul B. Anderson

A highly competent analysis of the elements which make up the problem of religion in Russia, written with remarkable understanding of the interrelationships between people, Church and State, as they have developed since 1917. *Religious Book Club Selection.* **\$2.50**

The Radiant Life

By Rufus M. Jones

A constructive interpretation of life, written in a series of short religious essays by the well-known author of "New Eyes for Invisibles" and many other books. Contains the author's Harvard Ingersoll Lecture on "Immortality." **\$2.00**

Discovering the Boy of Nazareth

By Winifred Kirkland

"The best and most accurate picture of the child Jesus that we have at present," writes *The Living Church* of this excellent book for young people. Highly recommended by teachers for study groups. **\$1.25**

The One Volume Bible Commentary

Edited by J. R. Dummelow

Line by line the Bible is here commented on in a handy volume of nearly eleven hundred pages. "More information, attractively presented, than can be found in the same amount of space in the whole realm of Bible literature."—*Bishop C. R. Anderson, Diocese of Chicago.* **\$3.00**

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cerns arising from Christian charity should be continually pressed upon governments to the end that every means be utilized to bring relief and hope to those in despair. The churches have supported the bill adopted by Congress (Gillette-Taft Bill) which calls upon the Department of State to devise means of limited relief to the children in occupied countries of Europe. The Government should be urged to implement this measure. The relief programs supported by the churches in other parts of the world should have much larger contributions than are currently provided.

The impulses of Christian compassion must be quickened both for the sake of the suffering children and for the sake of the spiritual health of our own people.

PAX VOBISCUM

Friend, you have come to this Church, leave it not without a prayer. No man entering a house ignores him who dwells in it.

This is the House of God and He is here.

PRAY then to Him Who loves you & bids you welcome and awaits your greeting.

GIVE THANKS for those who in past ages built this place to His glory & for those who, dying that we might live, have preserved for us our heritage.

PRAISE GOD for His gifts of beauty in painting & architecture, handicraft & music.

ASK that we who now live may build the spiritual fabric of the nation in TRUTH,

BEAUTY & GOODNESS & that as we draw near to the ONE FATHER through our LORD & SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST we may draw nearer to one another in perfect brotherhood.

The Lord preserve thy going out and thy coming in.

This greeting, appropriate for the porch or entrance to a Church, is printed in red and black. The original appears in Canterbury Cathedral, England. It has been made available in the United States. Size 9½ by 15½ inches. Price \$1.00 each postpaid.

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Federal Council Literature Associates

In response to many inquiries and requests, the Federal Council has arranged a special "Combination Offer" of its publications on an annual subscription basis. Those subscribing will receive all the bulletins, booklets, pamphlets and periodicals published by the Council and the inter-agency Commissions in which the Council shares, during a twelve-month period. Based upon the record for 1943 there will be more than 50 pamphlets and periodicals, including such fields of the Church's cooperative service as:

- Field Administration
- Evangelism
- International Justice and Goodwill
- Social Service
- Marriage and the Home
- Industrial Relations
- Cooperatives
- Race Relations
- Research and Education
- Relations with Churches Abroad
- Radio
- Worship
- Religion and Health
- Town and Country
- Chaplaincy
- Camp and Industrial Communities
- Bases of a Just and Durable Peace
- Overseas Relief and Reconstruction
- Resettlement of Japanese-Americans
- Minority Peoples

In addition there will be included annual subscriptions to:

FEDERAL COUNCIL BULLETIN.....	10 issues annually
Information Service.....	40 issues annually
Town and Country Church.....	9 issues annually
Interracial News Service.....	6 issues annually
The Post-War World.....	6 issues annually

At least 100 items in all.

This plan is open to churches, ministerial associations, councils of churches, study groups, and individuals. The annual fee is \$10.00. This must be over and above the contributions heretofore received from the same source in support of the Federal Council's work.

Pamphlets will be handled through group mailings each quarter on the 15th day of June, September, December, and March. Periodicals will be mailed as issued.

All applications and checks accompanying order should be addressed to the Federal Council Literature Associates, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. Checks should be made payable to Harper Sibley, Treasurer.

Negro Churchman Honored

Included in an exhibit of portraits of leading American Negroes on display during the month of May at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D. C., was a painting of Dr. George E. Haynes, Executive Secretary

of the Race Relations Department of the Federal Council. Seven of the portraits, including Dr. Haynes', are the work of the distinguished artist, Laura Wheeler Waring of Philadelphia. The other portraits in this group are: James Weldon Johnson, Marion Anderson, W. E. B. DuBois, Harry T. Burleigh, Lillian Evanti and General Benjamin O. Davis. The exhibit was made possible through the coöperation of the Harmon Foundation.

Dr. Haynes' picture is captioned as follows:

"Prophet of human brotherhood under the Divine Fatherhood. Skilled engineer of human relations. Outstanding leader in interracial coöperation through the churches.

"Combining religious idealism and social vision in a marked degree, he has brought Negro and white churches into a united fellowship of service to humanity."

Dr. Haynes has headed the Federal Council's Race Relations Department since 1922. His book, "The Trend of the Races," published by the Missionary Education Movement, has been studied by thousands of church groups throughout the country.

Council Supports Admission of East Indians

A bill has been introduced in the House by Congressman Celler which would authorize the naturalization and the admission into the United States under a quota, of Eastern Hemisphere Indians of India and descendants of Eastern Hemisphere Indians of India. This bill, if enacted into the law, would do for (East) Indians what the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Law did for the Chinese. Under existing immigration quotas approximately 75 Indians would be admitted and eligible for citizenship within a twelve months' period. The number now in this country, who will be eligible for citizenship under the law, is approximately 3,000.

Here, again, as in the case of the hearings on the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act, representatives of the Federal Council and of the Foreign Missions Conference will present supporting testimony before the appropriate congressional committees.

Silver Star Medal Presented to Chaplain

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Ralph A. Bard on May 3 presented to Lieutenant Glyn Jones, Chaplain Corps, U.S.N.R., the Silver Star Medal, awarded to him for his heroism at Cape Torokina, Bougainville, while serving with a Marine division. Prior to entering the Naval Reserve in April, 1942, Chaplain Jones had served as pastor of the Brownall Baptist Church in Fall River, Mass., and the First Baptist Church in Woonsocket, R. I.

The text of the citation accompanying the award is in part as follows:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action . . . on November 1, 1943. After landing on the beach with his battalion,

Lieutenant Jones, although not required by his duty to do so, proceeded to the firing line and, without consideration for his own safety, searched for the wounded in the jungle undergrowth, assisting in saving the lives of several by directing litter bearers to them. He also, while under heavy enemy fire, walked about among the combat troops, encouraging and reassuring them. On the following day, while conducting burial services for the dead, he was selected as a target by a Japanese sniper who fired five shots at him during the services . . ."

The behavior described in this citation indicates one reason why many chaplains are held in such high respect and affection by the men among whom they serve.

Help for a Few French Children

A limited quantity of food is again to reach the starving children of France through the channel of the American Friends Service Committee. United States government licenses, cleared through the Treasury Department and the War Relief Control Board, authorize the purchase by the Friends of \$125,000 worth of foodstuffs in Switzerland and Portugal, to be shipped directly into France. Distribution will be through the Secours Quaker and the International Red Cross. Secours Quaker, the French Friends' organization, has been carrying on with extremely limited funds and supplies since the closing of France to outside aid in November, 1942. Many of the same French personnel who served with the American Friends' units before the closing of France are still at the centers and will supervise the distribution of the food which is now being sent in. Among foods of high nutritive value available and which will be purchased for shipment into France are milk, cereal, dry fruit, dry fish, nuts, and oval-maltine.

Before the occupation of France was completed, the American Friends, using funds sent by American Protestants of over twenty denominations, through their united overseas relief program as represented by the Church Committee on Overseas Relief and Reconstruction, cared for some 500 children in Quaker colonies in France. Until now, it has been impossible to send either food or money into the country and the desperate plight of the children there, deprived of even these supplementary rations, has lain deeply on the hearts of American Christians. The present opportunity well justifies the faith of those who have continued to support the program in spite of all discouraging reports.

Bible Sales Soar in Holland

Bible sales in occupied Holland were greater last year than ever before in the 130 years of the Netherlands Bible Society's existence. Aneta, the official Netherlands news agency, reports to the Office of War Information that the Society published a statement in a Nazi-controlled Amsterdam paper to the effect that it had sold 75,000 Bibles, 90,000 New Testaments, and 40,000 "fragments" of the Bible.



New Scribner Books

June Selection of the
Religious Book Club

The Doctrine of The Trinity

By LEONARD HODGSON

A readable and valuable presentation of this central Christian doctrine by an outstanding theologian, whose mass or original material makes this volume a distinguished contribution, the first of its kind in more than a decade. \$2.50

Christian Counter-Attack

By HUGH MARTIN, DOUGLAS NEWTON, H. M. WADDAMS, and R. R. WILLIAMS

A factual record of what the Churches of Europe have done and learned and suffered in their struggle with Nazism. Country by country the story is told—in the light of all available evidence—a thrilling and inspiring page in Christian history. \$1.50

Beyond the Night

By ELMORE M. McKEE

A powerful and brilliantly reasoned plea for a return to God; a warm and friendly book about the meaning of faith and the need for self-conquest; an inspiring and affirmative message in days of fear and insecurity. \$2.50

Christianity and Democracy

By JACQUES MARITAIN

A timely and stimulating volume, written "to indicate the direction in which we will have to proceed" in order that we may win not only the War but the Peace as well. \$1.75

Slavery and Freedom

By NICOLAS BERDYAEV

A noted philosopher, now imprisoned by the Nazis, here gives an outline of his "philosophical journey" and tells of the influences and experiences that have defined his intellectual position. \$2.75

A Certain Blind Man

Essays on the American Mood

By ROBERT ELLIOTT FITCH

"This interestingly written and dynamic book has a penetrating and inescapable biblical basis. It by no means stops with the five challenging texts; it applies their deeper meaning for present-day American life?"—*International Journal of Religious Education* \$2.00

at all bookstores Charles Scribner's Sons

"A testament of coöperation' that is needed by all searchers for the way to peace."—*Benson Y. Landis.*

Peace Through Co-operation

By J. Henry Carpenter

The thesis of this book is that the close of the war shall find us facing the dilemma of coöperation or chaos. If coöperation be chosen, we shall need, to attain it, the spirit and power of Christ. This "love principle in action" necessarily takes the form of economic coöperatives wherein the desire to serve replaces the greed for profit. That Christians may see the necessary relationship between coöperation and coöperatives is, then, the author's chief concern. Dr. Carpenter is Secretary of the Brooklyn Federation of Churches, and probably the best informed church leader on the Coöperative movement.

Just published. \$1.25

A Preface to Prayer

By Gerald Heard

"The union of all who pray and who by prayer grow in love and understanding," writes the author, "may yet prove to be the basis of that universal Church which is mankind's hope." This book is written, not for those who are contented with their life of prayer, but for those who have ceased to pray or to believe in praying. \$2.00

On Beginning from Within

By Douglas V. Steere

"The mysticism which this book embodies is the practical mysticism out of which any really great social gospel must draw its vitality and enduring power. It is the mysticism not of withdrawal from life but of deepening devotion that one may enter into life eagerly, fully, and creatively."—*Chicago Theological Seminary Bulletin.* \$1.50

Life's Unanswered Questions

By Harold Cooke Phillips

"This is a series of exceptional sermons by one of the outstanding American preachers, centering around the Christian interpretation of human life. The sermons are thoughtful and weighty in substance but simple in style."—*Religious Book Club Bulletin.* \$1.50

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• News of State and Local Cooperation

Radio Experiment in Adult Education

The Kansas City Council of Churches and Radio Station KMBC have conducted a series of thirty-minute round-table discussions for over four years. Beginning under the title "Religion and Life" the Council has recently presented its program under the title "The Little Office Behind the Church Organ." The purpose has been assisting the listening public to think through personal and collective problems in the light of the moral and spiritual values of religion. Attention has been focussed upon the religion of Jesus, with its roots in the Hebrew literature of the Old Testament.

Each week a panel of four members is selected. Panel members represent different races, occupations, classes, and religions. The principal requirement is that each participant frankly express the convictions which grow out of his experience.

The weekly subjects represent continuity of thought somewhat like related chapters in a book. All subjects involve moral, social, and spiritual issues and reflect the best national and world-wide thinking upon vital questions under discussion in print and over the radio. An indication of the type of subjects considered through these

round-table discussions is furnished by the following list:

"Are you afraid?" "What are the roots of fear and courage?" "Do we live in a friendly universe?" "Does God need you?" "What is God doing today?" "What is religion when we get back of its window-dressing and its gestures?" "What is the difference between education and regimentation?"

Each member of the panel receives a sheet of information sketching the pattern for the discussion. The sheet also contains a number of suggestive questions and references for reading. Members of the panel and a representative of the radio station and the council of churches meet for a lengthy free discussion on some day preceding the broadcast. They meet again on Sunday morning around the microphone, thirty minutes before they go on the air.

The Council reports that this experiment has deepened the following convictions:

"1. The radio can become our most effective educational instrument. However, the first step in radio education is to improve the attitude of each person toward his radio set.

"2. The listeners have assumed a passive attitude toward the radio set in their homes. Few persons have analyzed avail-

able programs and selected a balanced intellectual, emotional, and spiritual-diet suited to their needs. To get the most out of his radio set, the listener must assume an active attitude toward it.

"3. Showmanship is necessary if we are to hold the attention of a radio audience for thirty minutes. The listeners are more interested in the clash of personalities and ideas than they are in the content of the broadcast. That has always been true of drama. The listener is entertained and at the same time he gets the message the drama is intended to carry.

"4. A democracy requires citizens who know how to think. Winning the war of ideas and objectives will require more than a military victory.

"5. We learn to think at points of tension. The crisis through which we are passing can be used to train adults to think, to think together and to act together. This is the foundation of the democratic way of life."

Congratulations to Toledo

Word has been received from the Toledo Council of Churches through its Executive Secretary, Rev. C. Clark Shedd, that their finance campaign has gone over the top.

To Be Published July 1

THE 1944 EDITION OF OUR ANNUAL DIRECTORY NUMBER WILL AGAIN BRING INSPIRATION AND HELP

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A Liturgical and Executive Calendar for the Year 1944-45.

Dedicatory Services—pages of these.

Review of Religion, 1943-44; Prophecy for 1944-45.

A Trade Directory.

All paid-up subscribers receive the copy as the July issue. Available to others at 50 cents each. This copy, plus the issues of September, October, November and December (no August issue is published), for \$1.50. Annual subscription, \$2.50.

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JULY 1944

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This was made possible by the "marvelous coöperation of churches, ministers and laymen in the response which they gave to the financial needs of the Toledo Council."

Council Honors Retiring President

The Council of United Churches of St. Joseph County, at its annual meeting on May 11, presented a citation for distinguished service to Rev. Frank E. Davison, the retiring President. The text of the citation follows:

"The Council of United Churches of St. Joseph County, by action of its executive board in special session on May 8, 1944, gives this citation of Frank E. Davison for distinguished service to the community and to the Church. For two and one-half years he has served the Council of United Churches of St. Joseph County with distinction as its President. He has led in the building of an effective Council of Churches. He has planned vigorously and administered thoroughly the enterprises to which he has lent leadership. He has earned the gratitude and esteem of the churches of St. Joseph County and in appreciation they present this citation."

A Code of Conduct With Respect to Race And Minority Groups

The Southern California Council of Churches, at its meeting on April 27, approved the following principles to be embodied in a code of ministerial conduct with respect to race and minority groups:

1. To present in sermons and in religious education at all times the unity of the human family and the sacredness of each person in the eyes of God.
2. To present racial themes in terms of the best available scientific investigations.
3. To know and understand the people whom we are discussing and interpreting; to depict members of all racial classifications as individuals with all the wide range of character and personality traits common to human beings of every human grouping.
4. To appreciate cultures and traditions other than our own.
5. To avoid group labels when handling themes which do not apply to the whole distribution of the group so termed (e.g., Jew, when we mean Isaac Solomon; Negro Problem, when we mean general housing etc.).

6. To avoid dealing with groups antagonistic to or criticized by Jesus so as to feed anti-semitism or racist passions.

7. Never to imply that the existing order of racial relationships is adequate or satisfactory.

8. To maintain a persistent spirit of social responsibility on the part of all church members to improve racial relationships.

9. To present the missionary work of the Church in such a way as to respect the dignity of all natives, the positive qualities of their cultures, and their capacities for unlimited growth.

10. To open the membership of all congregations in practice to all racial segments of the population on an equal basis.

11. To eliminate all discrimination within the institution itself with respect to employment and position.

12. To take the initiative in overcoming and shattering the conventions and traditions which prevent the full fellowship of all persons in the life of the Church and in the community.

Worship Seminars In Wisconsin

Waukesha, Wisconsin, was host on April 23 and 24 to a four-man Worship Seminar team arranged by the Commission on Worship of the Federal Council of Churches in coöperation with the local ministerial association. The visiting speakers were President Albert W. Palmer, Chicago; Dr. Earl E. Harper, Iowa City, Iowa; Prof. Frank M. McKibben, Evanston, Illinois; and Rev. Deane Edwards, New York. Features of the program were the presentation of the subject of worship at four of the churches at the Sunday morning service; the Monday Laymen's Luncheon of 125 men sponsored by the Rotary Club and the other service clubs of Waukesha at which Dr. Palmer was the speaker; the Sunday Evening Hymn Festival directed by Dr. Harper; and the service of Ecumenical Worship on Monday evening in which representatives of eleven denominations participated. The chairman of the local committee was Rev. Dwight M. Bahr of the First Baptist Church.

Seminars have previously been held in Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Neenah-Menasha, and La Crosse. Autumn seminars are in prospect for Beloit and for rural communities in the Sparta and Rice Lake areas of the State. These Seminars have had the active coöperation of Rev. Arthur G. Adams, Executive Secretary of the Wisconsin Council of Churches.

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Service Men's Council Commended

Admiral E. J. Marquart, Commandant Third Naval District, recently sent the following letter of commendation to Rev. Carl V. Herron, Executive Secretary of the Service Men's Council, New York City:

"As Commandant of the Third Naval District, I have become increasingly aware of the splendid contribution which the Service Men's Council of the Federation of Churches is making to the welfare of Navy personnel in this District. In particular, my attention has been called to the rich and varied service which the Council has rendered in coöperation with the Chaplains of the Navy. The religious literature and other appropriate materials which you have made available are of the greatest importance, and their value is inestimable.

"The time, money, and personnel effort being expended on the part of the churches to provide the helpful resources of religion to men and women in uniform, constitute a thoroughly significant contribution to the welfare of the Armed Forces. I would pay our most sincere expression of gratitude for the thousands who have been guests for over-night and breakfast in your church hospitality centers, and the great number of men and women who have received such cordial welcome in the homes of the community.

"I trust that the Service Men's Council may continue to maintain and expand its splendid services throughout the coming year."

New Council Organized At Glens Falls, N. Y.

A special installation service was conducted by Wilbur Clemens, General Secretary of the New York State Council of Churches, on May 16, at Christ Methodist Church, Glens Falls, N.Y., for the officers of the newly organized council of churches. The attendance of more than 1,000 people evidences the growing spirit of coöperation among the churches of Glens Falls.

Maine Organizes New Councils

Under the leadership of the Maine Committee to Organize Regional Councils of Churches, plans were recently launched to organize three new councils of churches. In the tri-county area centering at Wilton, Maine, April 26, 1944, a meeting of representative laymen and ministers voted unanimously to form a tri-county council of churches and authorized the creation of a Continuation Committee to draw up a program of activities, prepare a constitution and by-laws and submit the same to the churches for their consideration and action.

The Oxford County Ministers' Association held a similar meeting at South Paris on April 28 and took similar action.

The Ministers' Association of Lewiston-Auburn met to consider expanding their association into a more representative agency for church coöperation. This was

followed by a dinner meeting consisting of laymen, laywomen, and clergymen. They voted to create a council of churches and authorized the appointment of a Continuation Committee of laymen, laywomen, and ministers to prepare a program, a plan of organization and a budget for presentation to the local churches of Androscoggin County for their consideration and action.

Staff Changes

Rev. Clarence A. Wagner, formerly Civilian Chaplain, Rome, N.Y., has been elected to membership on the staff of the New York State Council of Churches. He will serve as Director of Leadership Training, Field Service and Adult Work. He began his new duties June 1.

Rev. J. Elmer Cates succeeded Rev. Clarence A. Wagner on June 1 as Civilian Chaplain, Civilian Housing Area, Army Air Field, Rome, N.Y.

Rev. H. A. Woodall became Field Representative on the staff of the Northern California Council of Churches May 1. He comes to his new position from the Northern California Conference of the Methodist Church. He will devote his energies to the financial undergirding of the Northern California Council.

Rev. Charles L. Duncan has been added to the staff of the Northern California Council on part time as Director of Vacation Church Schools and Leadership Education. Mr. Duncan was formerly Presbyterian representative in Christian Education in Northern California and Western Nevada.

Rev. Harry Titus, formerly Director of Community Service for the Church Federation of Dayton and Montgomery County, has resigned to accept the position of regional staff member of the War Relocation Authority with headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Rev. Claybourne Willis Longman has accepted the position as Executive Secretary of the Illinois Church Council. He brings to this service a rich practical experience and broad educational background. He is a graduate of Cotner University, Lincoln, Nebraska. He received his M.A. from Northwestern University and his B.D. from Yale Divinity School. He has completed the residence requirement for the degree of Ph.D. in the School of Education at Northwestern University. For more than twenty years he has served in the pastorate. For four years he was a member of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church, carrying special responsibility for leadership training. For the past six years he has been a member of the staff of the Department of Christian Education of the Disciples of Christ.

Mrs. Doris Hayes Steinberger has been appointed Director of Weekday Religious Education for the Council of United Churches of St. Joseph County, South Bend, Ind. Mrs. Steinberger comes to her new position from Berea College, where she has been assistant to the Dean since 1936. She is a graduate of Berea College. She will begin her work at South Bend September 1, 1944.

• Among the New Books •

Tell It to the Padre

By ROBERT W. SEARLE
Farrar & Rinehart

The thesis of this book is that man is achieving the mastery of nature through the understanding and application of natural law, but has failed in the mastery of human society. This failure should not and need not be the ultimate fate of mankind because there is a law of human relationship which Jesus has announced that is as inexorable and immutable as the laws of nature. This has been entrusted to the Church and the failure of human society must be to a great extent the failure of the Church.

But Dr. Searle's criticism of the Church is not negative but positive, and his suggestions for implementing Christian teaching in society are forthright and constructive. *Tell It to the Padre* is a really great book. It is so great that I fear some people won't like it. It cuts too deep and demands the re-examination of cherished presupposition. It calls for the kind of action which for many of us Christians will be drastically revolutionary. No one finds it easy to make radical readjustments, and consequently few will read this book with an easy mind. But the message of this book must be heeded, if the Chris-

tian Church is to meet the peril of our chaotic age.

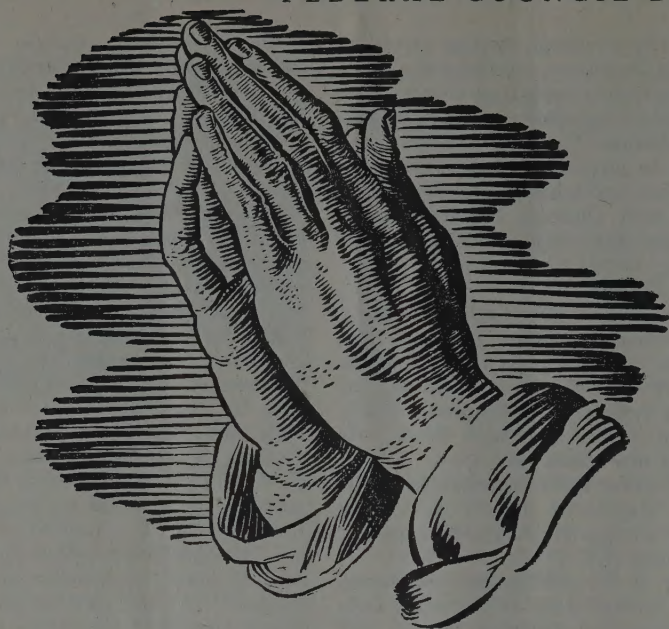
Dr. Searle has compressed into brief, pungent, eloquent sentences a burning conviction which has been developed in a life of conspicuous service in the Christian Church. We dare not ignore the truth which he proclaims. LUMAN J. SHAFER

The Short Story of Jesus

By WALTER LOWRIE
Scribner's. \$2.50

The author, best known as the American interpreter of Kirkegaard, is completely at home in the field of New Testament criticism, but he has no interest in a "naturalistic" life of Jesus. Such a treatment, he is convinced, would do violence to the Gospels which are our only sources for knowledge of Jesus. The Figure whom they describe is not merely "a remarkable man" but the Son of God. Unless one accepts this general conception, it is futile, Dr. Lowrie holds, to try to write the story of Jesus.

In treating the Virgin Birth, for example, Dr. Lowrie points out that no historical evidence "could be strong enough to support such a belief," yet in a life which is full of wonders, and ends with the wonder of the Resurrection, there is no reason for excluding mystery and wonder from the beginning. Again, in the case of Jesus' mira-



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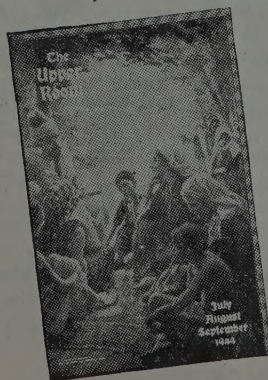
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cles, Dr. Lowrie contends that the real miracle is the Life itself, not any particular event in it, so that we are not called upon to reject the miracles unless we reject the total story. Similarly, the eschatological element in Jesus's teaching is accepted as integral to His whole understanding of the meaning of life and history.

The author's method is to break up the Gospel narrative into small sections, each with a descriptive title, and to give a brief interpretation of its significance for our reconstruction of a portrait of Jesus. It is, however, hardly a "popular" life of Jesus; it will be of chief interest to those who have considerable theological background.

From Science to God

By KARL SCHMIDT

Harper & Bros. \$2.00

The professor of philosophy at Carlton College, Minnesota, makes a distinctively philosophical approach to religious truth, deliberately choosing a path which will appeal to men trained in science. The results will not seem adequate to those who have been reared in an atmosphere of Christian faith; but, at least, the impression that religion is nothing but an "ancient myth" is left without standing-ground.

By religion Professor Schmidt does not mean merely the pursuit of ideal ends; he means a valid faith in the existence of God. His central thesis is that no truth can be achieved by man in any realm—not even in mathematics or physics—without the aid of God. He holds that all science is impossible if it begins by assuming "the absolute and independent existence of the entities with which it is concerned." For the "inescapable consequence" of such an assumption is that the reality in question is unknowable to the mind of man.

The method employed is that of deductive logic. The arresting conclusion is that, although the existence of spiritual reality and of freedom is not required in a science like physics, it is really required for physics. In order to account for the possibility of the common objects of our experience, the author insists, we must accept the fundamental hypothesis that they are the thoughts, the creations, of God. So also ethical concepts, like "ought," are really inexplicable except as the "voice of God," and the fact that we can have a community of experience is due to God.

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